

## **ABSTRACT**

The present invention provides modified proteinoid microspheres that can be labeled and/or attached to selective binding moieties. The selective binding moieties can bind to selected targets either in vitro or in vivo. Examples of selective binding moieties include antibodies, ligands, receptors, and the like. Such modified proteinoid microspheres are useful for detecting target antigens, polypeptides, cell types and tissue types. The modified proteinoid microspheres of the invention can also be used for diagnostic imaging.